

# The AGIPPSland 1. Cam

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The Dean, the Very Rev Steve Clarke, the Reverends Fran Grimes and Rich Lanham, Archbishop Dr. Philip Freier, the Rev Heather Toms, the Ven Philip Muston and the Rev Jon Taylor

# Four ordained as priests by Primate

Jan Down

The Reverends Frances
Anne Grimes, Richard
Charles Lanham,
Heather Wilma McDougallToms and Jonathan Charles
Taylor were ordained to
the priesthood on Saturday
8th November, at St Paul's
Cathedral, Sale, by the
Most Rev Dr. Philip Freier,
Archbishop of Melbourne,
Metropolitan of the Province
of Victoria, and Primate of
Australia.

The service was conducted by the Dean, the Very Reverend Steve Clarke. The Presenting Archdeacon was the Venerable Philip Muston, and the preacher was the Rev Graham Knott, who is the Examining Chaplain of the diocese.

The service booklet included

statements from each of the ordinands.

Fran Grimes, who has been ministering as Deacon in the Parish of Corner Inlet for the past two years, wrote that she grew up in Sandringham, and followed her father into medicine. "After working for 25 years in General Practice, firstly in Melbourne's western suburbs and for the last 15 years in South Gippsland, she felt God's call on her life to live out her passion for Christian ministry. This led to seeking ordination in the Anglican Church..."

Fran said that she and Michael and their daughters Jessica and Kirra live in a mud brick house on 3.5 acres. She added "The property's name, "Shalom", speaks of the wholeness of life God gives them in this special place."

Rich Lanham, Diocesan Youth Development Officer, wrote about the people whom God had used to bring him to this moment in his life, expressing deep thankfulness.

He mentioned his loving parents; a youth leader; a priest who paid to send him on a camp, where he made a commitment to Jesus; a Church Army Captain; his wife Julie, and sons Jack, Jacob and Elijah. "Then a great man of faith, John McIntyre, who was able to see beyond the risk others said I was, and the things I obviously lacked, and believe that God had a great plan for my life."

Rich wrote "Nothing I know or have has value apart from the love God has shown me in Jesus Christ. I thank and praise God for the love and faithfulness he shows me. My life's desire is to see people restored, healed and changed through the redeeming gift of faith in the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

Heather Toms spoke of a continuing journey, quoting from a hymn used in the service "The Summons": "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?"

She said "As I reflect, I am so reminded that God takes the most unlikely people and equips them for the task ahead. I am one of those people – unlikely, absolutely, quiet, shy, the only gift I can offer a person is the love of Christ, to be Christ's hands and feet, ears and eyes and heart...

Heather acknowledged the people who had "walked beside her", including "the men in green" whom she ministers to at Fulham Prison, and said "The journey continues: 'God in your

company I will go, where your love and footsteps show".

Jon Taylor, Chaplain at Gippsland Grammar School, wrote "The influence of a loving mother, an extra loving grandmother and a wise and caring Uncle (the Rev Rob McDonald – former Rector of Heyfield and Bairnsdale) meant that I could never deny what I understood to be the reality of God's presence in their lives."

He said "The Gospel of Jesus Christ seems to become truer and of more importance each day and being ordained as a Priest will enable me to continue and extend my sense of call to help others draw closer to God. I want to thank the Diocese of Gippsland and Gippsland Grammar for the opportunity to serve in an ordained capacity over these last five years."

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**Beverley Foster** 

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# The Anglican

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hristmas is the season many of us look forward to as a family time: a time to gather and enjoy the company of our loved ones.

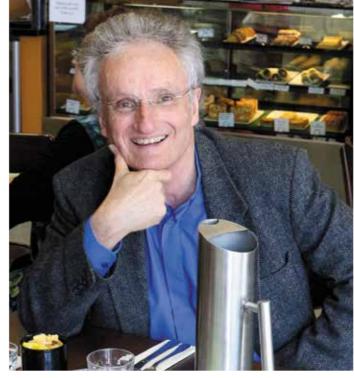
It is a blessing to those of us with functioning families, but sometimes distressing and isolating for those without.

As we approach the Christmas season we are presented with pictures of the 'Holy Family' in our late Advent readings, on Christmas cards and in nativity scenes. It's a charming and soothing familial scene as Joseph, Mary and Jesus huddle together in the stable or cave, animals and shepherds looking on.

But even in these early years of his earthly life, Jesus' family life was unorthodox. Dealing with premarital pregnancy and a forced journey across an occupied country, this family 'did it tough' and found themselves at the centre of a political storm.

It must have been a great relief for Mary and Joseph to get back to good old poverty-ridden Nazareth, where they might at least have had the support of extended family, and where in time siblings for Jesus could be born in relative safety.

Joseph seems to have disappeared from the scene during Jesus' young manhood. Perhaps the concern Jesus showed for the plight of poor widows reflected the experiences of his own mother in raising a family without any welfare support.



# Jesus: a different kind of family man

By the time of Jesus' ministry, Mary appears more as a stressed and interfering Jewish mumma than as the gracious and accepting young parent. Jesus, on occasions in the gospels, tells her and his siblings more or less to 'butt out'.

'Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?' he asks when his family came looking for him, worried about his behaviour. Pointing to his disciples, he says: 'Here are my mother and my brothers. Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother'.

So Jesus cares about his family: it's just that he redefines family from his nuclear family

to the community of disciples.

He cares passionately about his wider family and how they are treated by the world. At one stage he says that anyone who gives even so much as a glass of water to any of the 'little people' who are his disciples will be rewarded.

He says in Matthew 25 that when the nations of the world are judged, God will judge how they treated the least (important) of his brothers and sisters as how they treated him, the Lord.

Did they care for his disciples when they were hungry, needing clothing, isolated, sick or imprisoned? (Do we care for the least of Jesus' disciples when they are

stretching to pay their rent or keep an old car on the road?)

So Jesus is a family man, but one with a difference! Let's – like Jesus – remember the importance of our church family over and above our nuclear families this Christmas. Are the least assertive, the least well-off, or the least noticeable of our brothers and sisters in Christ being loved and well looked after as the world sits down to tuck into Christmas dinner with its nearest and dearest?

#### **Bishop Appointment**

The Bishop's Appointment Board is, at the time of publication, examining and preparing to interview a short list of experienced and qualified candidates. By the time you read this it is possible that the name of our new Bishop will have been announced.

I speak for all the Board when I thank you for your prayers and encouragement over the last five or so months. Assuming that we have a Bishop, it's time to shift our thoughts and prayers to them in their finishing up where they are, packing and shifting to Sale ready for an installation as the new year gets underway. We'll have more news on that hopefully in the February edition of *The Gippsland Anglican*.

Do have a very happy and holy Christmas.

Philip Muston

#### Giving while Receiving

Deposit funds with the Anglican Development Fund (A.D.F.) for the Diocese of Gippsland.

Enjoy competitive rates of interest on your deposit. Current interest rates for deposits with the A.D.F. are:

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We'll make your money work in low risk investment opportunities, ploughing the profits back into the Diocese to serve the Mission of the Church here in Gippsland.

Sit back content in the knowledge your deposit is generating favourable interest rates while benefiting the Anglican Church in Gippsland, all at the same time!

We can transfer funds from your ADF Account to your bank account or issue a cheque for a specific person or company.

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**So, here is your opportunity to learn the art of Giving while Receiving.** Give us a call on (03) 5144 2044 or write to The Registrar at P O Box 928, Sale, 3850, or you can drop in to the Diocesan Registry at 453 Raymond Street, Sale for an Application Form to open an account with the ADF.

**Note:** Neither the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland nor the Anglican Development Fund – Gippsland is prudentially supervised by APRA. Contributions to the Fund do not obtain the benefit of depositor protection provisions of the Banking Act 1959.

Bronwyn Barbetti, from the Registry office, has been busy lately – but not at the office. Here is baby Hazel, born on September 26th, with big sister Evie, aged two.



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December 2014

## New factory for Morwell–

#### creating jobs in sustainable manufacturing

Jan Down

ureka's Future Workers Cooperative will be a ✓ worker-owned factory manufacturing solar hot water systems at Morwell. Currently the cooperative is working in partnership with the Everlast company in their factory in Dandenong, but the aim is to move the manufacturing to Morwell, while the Dandenong factory is retained for storage, distribution and recycling.

Eureka's Future Workers Cooperative is the first project of Earthworker Cooperative, co-founded by Dave Kerin. The aim is to create a network of community-owned cooperatives across Australia, to provide jobs in the renewable energy sector, and bring back local manufacturing.

Through a partnership credit the union, BankMECU, low interest loans have been made available to assist households in purchasing solar hot water systems.

Enterprise Bargaining Agreements (EBAs) are also helping to create a market: an Earthworker clause in the agreement allows workers to choose a solar hot water system as part of a wage increase. This clause has already been included in agreements with one major regional University, one major City Council and also with a significant community agency. Currently, sector Earthworker the whereas Clause has been agreed to, the EBAs themselves are yet to be signed off.

Earthworker cooperative, Eureka's Future, will employ many metal workers to manufacture the stainless steel tanks. As well, Earthworker is looking for 200 Earthworker Plumbers from across Australia, but mainly in Victoria. Dave Kerin says, "We'll be bringing people from the Valley to Dandenong the factory for training."

When there are sufficient volumes of work, manufacturing now carried Dandenong in will move to Morwell.

As part of this strategy Earthworker has been fundraising to clear the factory debt for Everlast. They aim to mutualise Everlast - becoming a cooperative and handing over the factory to the workers.

Dave Kerin is excited about Earthworker, because he says addresses both climate change and the need for jobs. He says it is also "scary", particularly in the current political climate, with both sides of politics "unresponsive".

Dave talks about Christian roots to the idea of the workers' co-op, first mentioning the highly successful Mondragon Corporation. Mondragon was founded in 1956 by a Catholic priest, José Maria Arizmendiarrieta, Mondragón, in the Basque countries Spain. near been banished José had by the Franco regime to Mondragon, beginning his work there in 1942.

José was concerned about the poverty he found in Mondragón, following the Spanish Civil War, and began by setting up a technical college. Graduates of the college were then involved in founding the coop with José. Their first product was a paraffin heater. "...the aim is

Mondragon is now an international corporation federation of worker cooperatives, with a revenue of 12.574 million euros (www.

mondragon-corporation.com), and worker-owned assets to the value of 20 billion euros.

Dave Kerin met the Rev David Peake and Antony 2011 McMullen in in Melbourne when they were all involved in a conversation about developing a farm in northern Victoria for young people just out of jail. While that idea has not yet come to fruition the Earthworker topic came up in the conversation and led to both Antony and David becoming involved for a time.

The Rev David Peake, OAM, is the minister at the Anglican



church of St. Mary Magdalene, Broadmeadows/Dallas. David has worked with disadvantaged and disengaged young people in various northern and western suburbs of Melbourne for over 20 years. (see: www malpaorgau/who-we -are) for his very impressive

David says that for him, it

was a "no-brainer" to be involved in something like Earthworker. laments Australia's of the worker-owned cooperatives country had in the 1950s, mentioning Fletcher Jones and SPC (Shepparton Preserving Company). He Earthworker sees "wonderful,

because it's worker-owned. All the profits are returned to the cooperative". Workers are paid a wage, but profits go to the cooperative, and 5% is allocated to social justice initiatives.

#### Social Justice Fund

The 5% Social Justice Fund of Earthworker Cooperative will now be administered

to move the

manufacturing

to Morwell"

by the Father Maguire Bob Foundation. Under this plan, as the 5% dollars grow, solar hot water systems will be installed

across the Fr Bob low income housing units and beyond, in cooperation with organisations like the Rev David's and also the Creative Ministries Network Uniting Care, through its Director Antony McMullen.

This is a tithing or direct tax, carried out for a specific purpose. The spend is demonstrable and the outcomes obvious. are Earthworker hopes that other small to medium enterprises, especially in renewables, will join them to contribute up to 5% of their profit/surplus in

David's role at Earthworker was to develop enthusiasm and contacts for the project – a task for which he was well suited,

given his experience and extensive network of contacts. He assisted with setting up crowd-funding through the Paypal account of E-qubed a social enterprise he initiated to provide training and

**David Kerin** 

employment for disengaged young people. The crowdfunding for Earthworker raised \$78,503 in two weeks in June this year, a figure beyond the minimum \$63,000 required.

David says that as Christians, "We have a responsibility to the poor, the disenfranchised, the people who are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change and change". social He is concerned about the of commitment manufacturing in Australia, and worries about the effects of long-term unemployment on young people.\*

#### **Cries of the harvesters**

McMullen Antony also concerned. He sees Earthworker as "a new way of working with people that is just and sustainable". Antony was a project officer and consultant for Earthworker in 2012–13, through the Uniting Church Culture and Context Unit (Vic/Tas).

He has a strong sense of the history of Christian concern for working people, which he says can be traced back to Wesley, and to Pope Leo XIII's encyclical, Rerum Novarum (1891) and indeed to the early church and the book of James. James deals with a labour dispute: "Behold, the wages of the labourers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts" (James 5:4)

Antony likes to link this biblical story with a significant piece of Australian history: the

> Sunshine Harvester (a different kind of 'mower of the fields') decision of 1907, where Judge Higgins made a ruling that the workers must be provided with a living wage, thus setting a precedent.

> Higgins was an Irish Protestant, who influenced been by Rerum Novarum Rights and Duties of Capital and Labour) inwhichthePopesaidthat

employers have an obligation to their employees and that the working poor should be fairly treated.

The other Christian principle that Antony mentions is creation care. He says "Earthworker seeks to recognise that creation has finite resources, and that we can create new work opportunities through sustainable manufacturing".

He sees two parts sustainability: the products being made are environmentally friendly; but it is also the cooperative principles that make for sustainable jobs. "The jobs are owned by the people who work in the enterprise. It directly links reward with ownership, so you have no problem with connections between people and their work, reward for effort and benefits to the community and creation". Antony sees in Earthworker the possibility of "a cooperative renaissance".

\*10.1% for youth in the Latrobe-Gippsland Region, to a Brotherhood of St Laurence Australian Report, Youth Unemployment:Snapshot March Counting The Costs. *2014*:

For more information:

earthworkercooperative.com.au

#### Remembrance Service at Metung

#### **Sandra McMaster**

t. John's Anglican church in Metung held a Remembrance Service on 9 November 2014 to honour the 49 men of Metung and its surrounding district who served in WW1.

This was the culmination of a project to research the service histories of these men. Research using information from the National Archives, the National Library of Australia, the Australian War Memorial as well as interviews with families

of the men resulted in a website www.metungrollofhonour.com.au a book – available for sale at the Metung Post Office for \$12 – and the Remembrance Service at St. John's.

The service commenced with Piper Bill Dunbar leading in the Reverend Canon Barbara Logan and RAAF Chaplain, the Reverend Bruce Grey, to *Amazing Grace*. Following the service, the large congregation went outside and "planted" inscribed remembrance crosses in front of a rosemary hedge in the grounds.

Tim Bull and three East Gippsland Councillors attended, along with the families of those who served: the descendants of Armstrong, Bearham, Brooker, Bull, Bury, Byrne, Cantrill, Casement, Dyte, Gilsenan, Kempton, Kreymborg, and Howlett. Mr. Kempton was the Rev Barb Logan's great uncle. He was also an owner of the Metung Hotel.

After Bugler Graham Hall played the Last Post, everyone enjoyed a sumptuous morning tea inside the hall.



Poppy crosses specially made in a Sheltered Workshop for disabled people, in Scotland, from Scottish Pine, depicting the Scottish Poppy

# Korumburra fete and quilt display

Lyn Gilbert

he recent fete at St. Paul's, Korumburra was a great success and we were blessed with a lovely sunny day. We had all the usual stalls of cakes, plants, bric-a-brac, toys, books, sweets, a Christmas craft stall as well as lunches and morning and afternoon teas.

This year we also had a Quilt display in the church with 72 quilts made by talented local ladies.

The Youth Group also had a gaming competition in the meeting room.

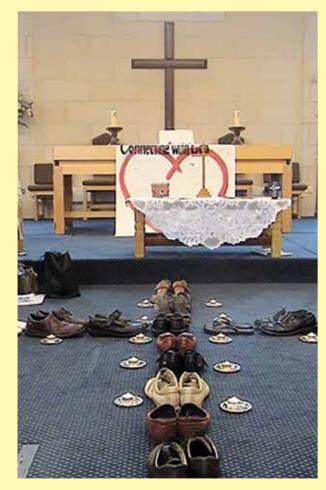
The fete was a great community event with lots of friends catching up with each other as well as picking up a bargain.







Anne Bell (Organiser of the service) giving the bugler, Graham Hall, a copy of the Metung Roll of Honour Book



#### The two great commandments

Anam Cara Quiet Day at Drouin

#### **Carolyn Raymond and Val Lawrence**

Anam Cara Community offers Quiet days in different parishes around the Diocese so that it is possible for people to attend without having to travel far. In October at Drouin the theme was "The Two Great Commandments". Most people who attended came from West Gippsland, but one person came all the way from Lakes Entrance!

Quiet Days offer all who come time for prayer and meditation. The day is celebrated with worship. In the morning the Rev Jim Connelly gave us a challenging reflection on the first of the two great Commandments. He reminded us that our journeys into the presence of our loving God will follow different roads. Our worship and commitment to God is authentic for each person.

After sharing lunch together Jan Huggins gave us a reflection on the second great commandment. Jan underlined the Christ power of connectedness. She encouraged us to see Christ in each other and in ourselves. Both speakers encouraged us to "open our inside eyes" to the presence of God in our lives and gave us much to think and pray about.

We ended with a "Service around the Cross". Our cross was made as each participant took off their shoes and placed them in line between rows of candles. This was symbolic of our journey into God. We journey beside each other, encouraging each other, praying for each other and learning and growing together.

#### 130th Anniversary Traralgon

s the only Christian church in Toongabbie, St David's (Traralgon Parish) plays a key role in community life and therefore, the importance of maintaining a well cared for "heritage style" church is imperative; which then provides people in the district with a spiritual centre that meets many of their needs.

On Sunday 12th October 2014 members and friends of St David's gathered together to celebrate the church's 130th anniversary.

Canon Jeff Richardson used Matthew 1:1-17 (the genealogy of Jesus) as his text, and said "In this long genealogy of Jesus, Matthew tells the reader that the meaning of your history is not in the past, but in the present. The significance of Abraham and Jacob and David is not that they lived in the 'good old days' when God really cared, but that they were forerunners of Jesus. The importance of Israel's history, for Matthew,

was the outcome toward which it was leading for those fortytwo generations: the birth of the Saviour.

"Matthew's reason for beginning his gospel with Jesus' genealogy suggests a Christian view of history that shapes our reflections on this anniversary. First, as a church we are formed and identified by our history, by where we have been in our past. And second, the meaning of that history is determined by the future, by where our history is leading us."

The 130th Thanksgiving Service also included two very special dedications: First, the Reverend Janet Wallis made a new Burse and Veil, which dedicated at the Offertory. Canon Second, Jeff dedicated to the glory of God a new toilet block (below) "tin-shed-toilet".

Following the Service people gathered outside for a "finger-food" luncheon and fellowship.





#### Be a part of supporting the **Aboriginal Ministry** Fund

The AMF exists to resource employment of Aboriginal people in ministry; training of Aboriginal people for ministry; development of Aboriginal ministry in the community; the planting of Aboriginal churches; education of the Diocese about Aboriginal issues.

Be a part of achieving these aims.

Contact the Diocese of Gippsland 453 Raymond Street, Sale, Victoria PO Box 928, Sale, 3853 Telephone 03 5144 2044 Fax 03 5144 7183 Email registrar@gippsanglican.org.au



# Wombats, planes and schoolies

**Ruth Place** Cooperating Churches in Churchill, Boolarra and Yinnar

et Blessing services were held at the church at Churchill and in the Railway Park at Boolarra. At Boolarra, Jean Quick, from the Boolarra Wildlife Shelter, spoke about her work and brought five orphaned wombats along to be blessed.

Russell Hadley spoke at a Saturday Breakfast on The 1934 MacRobertson Air Race. Where racing planes and chocolate meet! This air race from England to Melbourne was a competition between specialised British racing planes and fare paying, passenger carrying, commercial aircraft from the USA. Russell's talk was illustrated by some models of participating aircraft. The life of Sir MacPherson Robertson and his confectionary were also explored.

#### Commissioning Service -**Alternative Schoolies Week**

As part of our relationship with Gahini Diocese in Rwanda we were asked to be the commissioning parish for the Alternative Schoolies week students from St Paul's and Gippsland Grammar who are going to Gahini at the end of November. These are special young people who have decided to celebrate the end of their secondary education in such a positive and worthwhile way.

While they are in Gahini, Sarah Gover will be asking the students to go to the villages and paint wood with black paint to make blackboards for the children at the schools. As our contribution to the Gahini Diocese Sarah suggested we

collect some money to buy the paint.

We were also able to collect a supply of chalk to take. Teachers in Gahini get one stick of chalk per day with which to present their lessons. Our SRI teachers approached our local schools to see if they had chalk no longer required. We had marvellous support from

It was wonderful to see all those enthusiastic young people wanting to go to Gahini to make a difference. The Rev Brenda Burney prayed for their health and safety and for their experience to be memorable. She also prayed for the leaders of the group and the students' parents.

#### Fran Grimes serves first communion

#### **Carole Williams Corner Inlet**

day after her ordination at Sale on November 8, the Reverend Fran Grimes served communion for the first time to a large, combined congregation of Anglicans and Uniting Church members at Christ Church Foster.

Fran is pictured greeting parishioners Moya Allen and Phyllis Cozens, along with the Reverend Tim Fletcher, Rector of the Anglican Parish of Corner Inlet.



#### Garden Fair and Bonfire Night

#### **Mary Nicholls - Moe**

Children's Week, Moe Parish's Garden Fair took up the challenge of learning and planning for conservation, with children painting a conservation mural on one fence line. Plaster paining, facepainting and jumping castle fun also entertained the children. The fair also celebrated and introduced our developing Community Garden project. For sale were fresh garden produce, donuts, sausages, Devonshire teas, plants, books and Christmas items.

The arrival of Sue and Peter Lendon's Gypsy Caravan set the scene for the day. As a central feature, the children gathered to enjoy Story Telling sessions and Fairy bread led by Pat Bur from our cooperating partner parish, Newborough. The children were enthralled by Pat, who was splendidly adorned in gypsy attire.

The Reverend Graeme MacRobb gathered his puppet family together for "Conversation time with the children', while Sue's traditional lemonade provided welcome refreshment on a perfect spring day.

Moe Apex and Lion's Club Community Bonfire Night once again found our Moe Parish team selling coffee, tea and donuts. It was a brutally cold evening, making hot drinks and donuts very popular.

A record 900 donuts and over 300 cuppas later, we were celebrating as the magnificent fireworks display was launched. More than anything the donut tent has become a place where contacts with community members are revived year by year.

Led by the Service Clubs, this event provides the opportunity for community groups to boost their funds, which is greatly appreciated.



#### Nicholas John helps out school music group

erry McMaster, Co-ordinator of NicholasJohn Op Shop, presented a cheque for \$400 to the Lakes Entrance Secondary College music group which will go towards their up-coming tour to Canberra.

The Music Group will stop off

along the way to perform at various primary and secondary schools, giving them some experience of playing in front of an audience.

The recycling of donated goods allows the Op Shop to make an annual donation to the school's music group.



Back, L-R: Holly McKenzie, Emily Lapedota, Laura Dunstan, Chelsea Crook, Madeline North

Front: Renee Derbyshire, Hannah Stephens, Caroline Basset Standing: Michelle Lee-Dogger (Music Teacher) and Terry McMaster

#### Kidsplus+ News

Our GFS Kidsplus+ Network Annual Thanksgiving Service was held on Saturday 15th November at Gippsland Grammar School Chapel. We very much appreciated the generosity of the school in enabling us to use their lovely facility.

The GFS Ceremony of Light Service was used in this year's celebration as it recognised the breadth of the world-wide, national, State, Diocesan and parish ministries undertaken through this and affiliated ministries.

The prayers noted the welcome to new member country, Uganda, which started its new group mid year.

Lauren Kitwood and Catherine Purcell were presented with Silver Filigree Brooches, recognising years of service through GFS at many levels from Parish to Australian Council. In Lauren's case it included her experience as National Junior delegate to the World Council.

A special "Life Membership" Award was bestowed on long term member Annette Lade, recognising her leadership for many years at Traralgon South, in particular, and then as executive Treasurer for over 26 years.



GFS Chairman Lauren Kitwood leading worship at the Kidsplus+ Thanksgiving Service. At back, Mary Nicholls and Abuok Maluk from Moe.

A tragic car accident last May has Annette now receiving rehabilitation treatment for her quadriplegic condition in Melbourne. Prayers for God's healing power are called for, as we await an opportunity to celebrate this award with her locally.

In the meantime husband Trevor accepted the Award on her behalf. The family are currently seeking suitable housing in Traralgon, adaptable for her needs. Perhaps *Gippsland Anglican* readers may be able to help. Assistance or thoughts could be communicated through our Secretary, Carol Johnstone 51748445 or Kidsplus+ Gippsland: gippskidsplus@people.net.au/.

Parishes will receive shortly the renewal Affiliation forms for the Gippsland Kidsplus+ Network. An updated list of available resources and Activity trailer equipment will also be circulated. Affiliated parishes have free access to using such equipment.

Application Forms are now available for the **Kidsplus+ Camp at Allambee** 27th February to 1st March. Full cost for participants (leaders and campers) is \$100.00 with discounts for families with more than one participant. Interested team leaders should contact Kidsplus+ at gippskidsplus@people.net.au or ring 51272929.

# LEADERS EQUIPPED AT AUSTRALASIAN MOPS CONFERENCE

CEO of MOPS International, Sherry Speaker Surratt, was Keynote at the 2014 Australasian Conference held at Stanwell Tops on 17-19 October. MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolders) is a non-denominational church-based outreach ministry operating in over 100 churches around Australia, 180 MOPS leaders, representing groups in every State and Territory, attended the Conference.

Sherry encouraged Christian leaders to be brave about stepping into their area of influence – whether it's in the office, in their living room or in their communities.

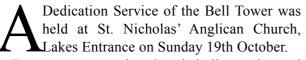
The purpose of MOPS is to encourage, equip and develop every mother of preschoolers to reach her potential as a woman, a mother and a leader in the name of Jesus Christ.

For more information on MOPS or how to start a group in your church, visit: mops.org.au or contact office@mops.org.au, or 0413 693 274.



# New bell tower for Lakes Entrance

#### **Sandra McMaster**



For many years the church bell was housed in an old windmill tower, which local children enjoyed climbing in order to "ring the bell"! Time and sea air saw the bolts and sections looking a little worse for wear and it was decided by Parish Council that, in the interests of safety, the time had come to dismantle the old tower.

Ms. Phillipa Carr of Michael Carr Architects P/L and granddaughter of parishioners, Ian and Beverley Bucknall, was engaged to design a new tower to be located in the front garden of St. Nicholas'. Pip's design reflected the materials used in the fishing trawlers.

Many local businesses either donated goods or their time to erect and complete the tower. After the Dedication Service, the bell was rung by members of the Ayres family, who rang the bell in honour of their late father, Graeme. He was for many years the faithful bell ringer, calling all to worship.



L-R: Ian Bucknall,
(parishioner) Phillipa Carr
(granddaughter of Ian and
architect of the tower),
the Rev Canon Barbara Logan and
Alan Bolding (local builder who
assisted with the construction)

#### TRAFALGAR INVITATION

You are invited to the official opening of Trafalgar's new building Tuesday 16th December, 6:00pm, 40 Contingent Street.

Drinks and nibbles provided.

RSVP 5633 1021 or trafalgaranglican1@gmail.com

# Around the parishes

#### Morwell ministries

#### **Carolyn Raymond – Morwell**

t St Mary's we are privileged to worship with the Rev Lyn Williams as our locum and the Rev Kathy Dalton as Assistant Priest. Kathy as part of her professional development attends a conference of Aboriginal Priests held in Cairns every year.

Recently Kathy planned and led a Bible Study for six parishioners on our responsibilities as Christians to nurture God's creation. This was a most interesting and well thought-out study. Kathy linked the message from the Old Testament with the messages from the New.

During the all-age service of All Saints and All Souls, in celebrating the ministry of Christians past, the Rev Lyn reminded us that each of us has our own particular ministry.

We were invited to place our names on the outline of a figure drawn on a large sheet of paper, on the part of the body where we saw our ministry. For instance if we were listeners we could put our names on the ears of the figure.

#### Mirboo North Quiet Day

"Drinking in the rain of heaven ... and turning tears into wells..."

#### **Rose La Vie**

The Rev Geoff Pittaway, Roseanne Tutty, Paul Milner and I met in May to discuss the possibility of facilitating quarterly Quiet Days at St Mary's to provide a time in which those involved very actively in mission and service to the body of Christ, could themselves be nurtured and renewed.

Prior to this, under the spiritual direction of Carolyn Raymond Terry Fanning, with encouragement Geraldine of Naismith and Alan Niven, I had come to value Mandala art. So at our October Quiet Day on 18th Otober, I decorated St Mary's pews and altars with 16 mandalas by Carolyn Raymond and two by myself, that later were drawn upon by the 14 participants in the creation of their own mandalas.

Participants began the day by selecting one to three photos, that depicted where they saw Spring in their own lives, or how they currently felt.



The day flowed well, with a cappella facilitators Jacqui, Danielle & Jessica Paulson (The Harmonizers) bringing harmony and light to our songs; and help in the kitchen provided by Denise Martin, Sara Forsyth and Rhondda Milner.

Pam Pincini and Lesley, previous Mandala Day or Quiet Day participants, also assisted with the provision of chalk and artistic modelling, at our mandala tables, that were quietly abuzz with activity, during both meditation times and the feedback sessions.

Shells and stones from Raymond Island, flowers and reflective readings were also utilised throughout the day, with the stones being placed back into a water-filled bowl during Afternoon Prayer.

Our next Quiet Day is scheduled for the 7th February, and will link with our Bushfire Recovery since 2009: "WATER... for a Thirsty Land".

#### New addition at Trafalgar

#### **Deirdre Crawley**

It is just 12 months since the State Government "Putting Locals First" grant was approved for the extension to our Church, St Mary's. Along with \$100,000 raised by the church, and the \$15,000 from the McNeilly Trust the grant helped provide a community hall, kitchen and facilities. We are thrilled with this now completed addition and appreciate what a great contribution it makes to our parish life.

We give thanks for the hard work of the committee, led by our Rector Sue Jacka, which brought this project to fruition. We continue to put the finishing touches to

the surrounding area, and make needed repairs to the established church.

On Saturday 15th November, we celebrated a "My Cake Rules" afternoon in support of School Chaplaincy in our cluster of schools: Trafalgar Primary and Secondary Schools, and Yarragon Primary School. It was well attended, by all age groups, filling our hall to capacity. The cakes achieved a high standard, and those available for tasting were greatly appreciated for our afternoon teas. Children enjoyed decorating cupcakes on the day. There were a large number of donations by our local businesses for prizes and lucky draws which added further interest.



The Symes family and their friend Jackson, all from Yarragon, had fun decorating cup cakes

December 2014 The Gippsland Anglican Page 7

From the schools TGA



St Paul's Anglican Grammar School students (L-R) Cameron Van Den Broek (Year 6) Ashlee Diston (Year 12), Amanda Fontaine (Year 10) and Max L'Hotellier (Year 6) with St Paul's ICT staff Coralie Pyman and Erik Faumuina holding the official eSmart sign

# Local student chosen to attend summer school



Brayden Haney (pictured centre) with Gold for being in the top 24 Australian students in Biology, James Gover (left), Silver, top six percent in Australia in Chemistry and Lloyd Hodge, Bronze, top nine percent in Australia in Physics

Year 11 student Brayden Haney from Gippsland Grammar has been selected to attend the elite Australia Science Olympiad Summer School, having achieved an outstanding performance in the qualifying exam.

Almost 4000 students took part in the exam and now Brayden will join 80 of Australia's most talented science students at this intensive residential program, working hard to earn a spot representing Australia at the 2015 Internationa Science Olympiads.

The summer school is held at The Australian National University in Canberra from January 6-22.

Australian Science Innovations is the not-for-profit organisation responsible for coordinating the Australian competition, including the selection and training of the Olympiad team.

Brayden said he was looking forward to the academic experience.

Gippsland Grammar Head of Garnsey Campus, Jan Henry, explained the program was rigorous.

"Students look at the equivalent of a first year university course in biology, chemistry, earth and environmental science or physics," she said.

"Students also have the opportunity to make lasting friendships with like-minded students who share their passion for science."

Based on their performance at the Summer School, just 17 students will be chosen to represent Australia at the International Science Olympiads in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Sciences and Physics.

Ms Henry said it was the first time in many, many years a Gippsland student had been invited to this event.

She explained that at Gippsland Grammar 11 students, from Year 11, participated in these exams this year, and that some students completed multiple tests. A total of 17 entries from the local school were submitted.

"From the 17 we received three High Distinctions, four Distinctions and five Credits."

James Gover was also recognised with a Silver medal for being in the top 6 percent in Australia in Chemistry and Lloyd Hodge received Bronze and was placed in the top nine percent in Australia in Physics.

#### St Paul's becomes 'eSmart'

Grammar School is the first Gippsland school to achieve a combined eSmart accreditation which extends from the Early Learning Centre through to Year 12 at both Warragul and Traralgon campuses.

eSmart Schools is a comprehensive initiative designed to assist schools manage cybersafety and reduce cyberbullying. It aims to create a cultural norm of smart, safe and responsible use of information and communications technology in school communities.

As part of the program St Paul's has created various opportunities for students and parents to learn about and participate in the eSmart program, including parent and student sessions on areas such as cybersafety and digital footprint. St Paul's has also developed an eSmart web

button on the School's portal for students to feel more comfortable about reporting inappropriate behaviour. When students click on this button they are taken to a secure website where they can complete the details of the situation, which is then dealt with by staff.

Becoming an eSmart school has also meant that St Paul's has updated and created policies for staff and students which focus on the eSmart principles. Sessions have been run at various levels of the school about being smart, safe and responsible online.

eLearning Coordinator,
Mrs Tara Russell advised that
"This program aims to assist
students in using Information
Communication Technology
(ICT) in a smart, safe and
responsible manner – values
which are at the heart of the
eSmart framework and our St
Paul's mission statement".



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### "What YOUNG children need to know to stay safe"

#### **Beverley Foster**

Mothers' Union, together with St Paul's Anglican Grammar School, introduced the topic of child sexual abuse. Emeritus Professor Freda Briggs AO was invited to speak at the Traralgon Campus, on 30th October 2014.

Professor Briggs is an internationally renowned expert on Child Protection. By invitation, she is currently assisting the Commissioner for Children for the State of Victoria in the inquiry into the Sexual Abuse of Children in Residential Care.

A cross section of parents, teachers, school chaplains/welfare workers, and professionals attended the presentation on this taboo subject. They were both confronted and rewarded with knowledge and practical advice.

"Why, when we have programs in place to protect our children from the dangers of traffic, fire, electricity and water, do we neglect their education in how to stay safe from a sexual predator?" asked Professor Briggs. She quoted the case of a visiting American child who, on being taken on a picnic with her grandmother's neighbour, knew how to stop the abuse by the male in question.

In school the child had learned to raise both hands as stop signs; say clearly "Stop, that's not allowed"; step backwards, and report to a trusted adult as soon as possible. On investigation it was found the abuser had molested, over a period of time, 37 children.



The "Stranger Danger" slogan will be familiar to many, but young children recognise him as being an ugly man, possibly with a balaclava and a black car.

Children should be taught who is the safest "stranger" to approach when lost or in difficulty. It is important that children should, from an early age, learn the proper names of their genitals. This empowers children to report abuse in a way that will be immediately understood, rather than the example Freda gave of a child telling his teacher that his step dad asked to play with his "golf set".

Freda recommends a NO SECRETS policy in the home, except for birthday surprises and to teach this distinction. This encourages children to be open about what is frightening and/or hurting them. Perpetrators will often force children to keep secrets they should not.

Sadly, children of single Mums can often be targeted, as can needy children and those with disabilities. Another

concerning fact is that the ages of both perpetrator and victim are becoming younger, when abused children engage others in sexualised play. Teachers and caregivers need education to distinguish between normal developmental curiosity and a child role-playing an abuser.

Doctors too often missed the signs of abuse. Professor Briggs addressed a group of 460 doctors who said it was the first lecture they had received on the topic of child abuse. It is an uncomfortable subject and at its extreme includes child prostitution, which is a bigger problem than the drug trade.

Professor Briggs' talk was illustrated by drawings on screen which had been done by young children who had suffered abuse and could not put into words what had happened. Absence of facial features and arms on the victim indicated their helplessness and hopelessness.

Professor Briggs commended Mothers' Union for showing concern for families worldwide. She said our systems are letting us down and she encourages us to contact the Minister for Education, Christopher Pyne, with a letter advocating compulsory Child Protection Education in all schools.

It is an uneasy balance to inform and educate the vulnerable in a caring way, but not to alarm the sensitive. However, we must make sure our young are equipped to deal with situations and share them with a trusted adult.

## ABC Radio National's Religion Programs

Frequencies:

Bairnsdale - 106.3 FM (3ABC RN) Melbourne - 621 AM (3RN)

#### Religion and Ethics Report

Wednesday 5:30 pm

 repeated: Thursday 5:30 am www.abc.net.au/radionational/ program/religionandethicsreport

#### Encounter

Saturday 5:00 pm

 repeated: Wednesday 1:00 pm www.abc.net.au/radionational/ programs/encounter

#### The Spirit of Things

Sunday 6:00 pm

 repeated Tuesday 1:00 pm www.abc.net.au/radionational/ programs/spiritofthings

**Rhythm Divine** (music program) Sunday 6:00 am

repeated: Monday 1:00 am www.abc.net.au/radionational/ programs/rhythmdivine

#### EARTH CARE CARD

- Tips for churches and households -



#### #5 Select sustainable seafood

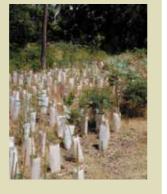
Marine ecosystems are under pressure from over-fishing; harmful fishing practices; pollution; and warming and acidification of the water. Help is available to make more sustainable choices. The Good Fish Bad Fish site (goodfishbadfish.com.au) recommends buying Australian fish, because our fisheries are better managed than many others around the world. They also say 'there is a sustainable alternative available for every species'.

Three fish recommended by GFBF (from a long list): Australian Salmon, bream and whiting.
Two to avoid: tuna and sharks (flake).
Also see The Australian Conservation Foundation Seafood Map acfonline.org.au/seafood-map

#### THE ABBEY 'BUSHLAND CONSERVATION BEE'

8, 10, 13 and 16 December 10:30 am – 3:00 pm With Emma Nicholls, Abbey Environmental Officer. Come to one or more days and help with weeding, planting or monitoring to protect remnant foreshore vegetation. Lunch provided by The Abbey.

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# So...this is Christmas? – a complaint

#### **Geoff Pittaway**

'was the night before Christmas. when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse ...

These lines from the famous poem by Clement Clarke Moore have been running through my mind of late, but as you may know (and as I found out), the rest of the poem describes the coming of Santa and his reindeer on Christmas eve.

John Lennon many years ago penned a song called "Happy Xmas" which focused on what one had achieved in the year leading up to Christmas, the plight of a world in turmoil, and a hope for peace for the coming year.

But are these the most useful things to focus on at Christmas?

Recently I preached on the gospel passage from Matthew 25:14-30 (the Parable of the Talents), and it reminded me of something about the importance of Christmas.

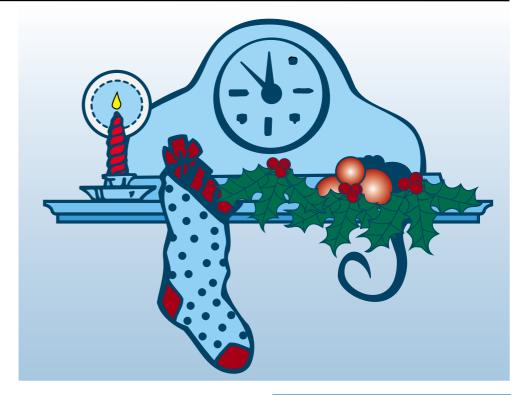
In the parable, Jesus says that "the kingdom of heaven is like ..." and goes on to speak about servants called to do their Master's business. They are to utilise all the resources ("talents" – large amounts of money actually), abilities and gifts that the Master has given to them.

The first two servants are commended for doing well and enter the Master's joy.

The third servant called in to settle his accounts with his Master had previously hidden his "talent" in the ground until his Master should return, because he saw the Master as a hard to please, and a shrewd unscrupulous businessman. When he retrieved the talent he effectively said to the Master: "Here is your property returned to you", and was severely castigated for doing so. We think of him as lazy for not growing the Master's business. It is not an image that we easily want to transcribe to our Master God (or Jesus if you like). That would make Him out to be something less attractive a "hard man" as the servant describes the Master.

As I discovered afresh, the problem wasn't the man's inability, or his indolence, but his relationship with, and view of, the Master. The other servants found no cause for complaint, in fact they happily got on with doing whatever they could to please the Master. The third servant could only find fault and ultimately lost that relationship altogether. Is this the way we see God?

In Moore's poem, and in Lennon's



song, the focus is on anything but God who brings us the mystery, the joy, the wonder, the hope of Christmas

Such writings keep us looking at our circumstances, our desires, our futility – but fail to lift us up to the glory of the God who stepped down into this broken world.

I tire easily of the screeching of "carols" in shops, malls, on street corners. I get frustrated by the yearly struggle to get "just the right gift" for uncle, sister, parent, whoever ... and the busy-ness of our cities and communities. We are not even growing the Master's business, but someone is benefitting by our hurry and worry in the silly season. So little time just to reflect!

This Christmas, can we find space to reflect on the loving character of our Master, who calls us to love Him in return so that we can know the fullness of joy and hope that is only found in Him? Can we, for a moment, put aside all that makes us momentarily happy and use what we have to please Him? And give Him the glory ...

In Excelsis Deo!

The Rev Geoff Pittaway is rector of St. Mary's, Mirboo North.



#### From the editor

#### "Christmas is cancelled."

The message on our kitchen blackboard was to let us know that relatives from Queensland were no longer coming to join us for Christmas, as one of them had become seriously ill on the trip, and was now in hospital.

This was bad news, and it changed the way we celebrated, but it didn't cancel Christmas. Christmas can't be cancelled, because it's happened. Jesus has come.

Thankfully, my relative recovered, but some years later we found ourselves facing the first Christmas after a family tragedy. It was hard, nearly impossible. But for me it was something like "Pass the Parcel": you remove layer after layer of pretty wrappings until you discover, underneath it all, the gift.

Setting aside the "merry" part, I found comfort in the *fact* of Chrismas. No news, no matter how bad, can cancel out the knowledge that God has come to us in Jesus, who is Emmanuel, God with us; that he lived a human life, suffered and died for us, and gave us hope of eternal life. "Neither death, nor life... nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Christmas is forever changed for us, but in some ways, it has become far more meaningful.

Jan Down





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s a youth worker, one thing that has often challenged me is how to facilitate a young person's discipleship journey. There have been quite a few young people over the years that professed their faith in Christ, but sadly have not come on board and joined the crew of the local church. Many have spent years on board the youth group and then sailed off into the distance, some never to be heard of again.

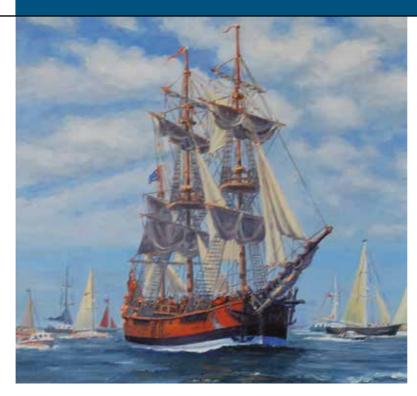
What would the discipleship experience have been like for the original disciples? How were they trained and what and how were they taught?

Three things stand out to me: discipleship is being sent on an **adventure**; it's about **stories**; and it's about **belonging**.

#### Adventure

At the start of Luke chapter 9 the disciples are sent out to proclaim the good news throughout Galilee. They are equipped, empowered, and given authority to heal and cast out demons. For this training exercise Jesus sent them just as they were; with no program, no physical resources and no church building.

Can we expect this of young people? Why not?! The disciples may have been young people themselves, some of them perhaps still in their teens. They acted like adolescents anyway; not many of them were smart or even literate. They probably were not yet the great, wise, bearded, middle-aged saints and apostles that my Illustrated Children's Bible depicted. It was many years later that a few wrote down what happened, yet they were experiencing real ministry right at the beginning.



# The Disciple-ship

John van der Marel

Not long after this sending-out exercise, Peter testifies to who Jesus really is: "God's Messiah" (v18-20). Jesus responds to this by teaching about denying oneself and taking up one's cross daily. Discipleship, Jesus style, is not smooth sailing. Jesus tells them, "If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it."

Luke 9:24 (NLT)

During their three years with Jesus the disciples shared a lot of life together as they journeyed though the cities, towns, villages, and remote areas. Sometimes they were moved by profound and deep truths, surprised by the miraculous; other times they were confused by His teaching.

Sometimes they were brave and at other times they doubted or argued over their individual importance, or were simply scared out of their wits. This was not just a series of neat, weekly one hour lessons; it was all-of-life stuff.

Then it all finished with an unexpected chain of events. Jesus was arrested, put to death, and resurrected. He gave the great commission and ascended into the sky. What strikes me about this is the incredibly adventurous nature of the discipleship experience. This is the idea of discipleship that rings true for me. This is the kind of discipleship that started the Church.

#### **Stories**

I recently took four young people on a 10 day wilderness camp. They love the epic stories that books and movies offer them, and there is something special about sharing stories around the camp fire, while walking along a beach or paddling a canoe across a lake.

The Bible is essentially narrative. It is God's story; the songs, poems, letters, wisdom, laws and prophecy are all part of it. The centre is the story of the good news. We need to know and be grounded in the Word of God and know God's Story. The story of creation, sin and the fall; the people of Israel; the story of redemption; the story from Christmas to Easter; the story of what happened after the Great Commission and Pentecost.

I was brought up with these stories and when I was young there were many young people who knew them, even if they were not church goers. We live now in a post Christendom era. Many young people today have not read much of the Bible at all.

In their hearts young people yearn to be a part of the Kingdom. They desire to enter a new world like entering the wardrobe into Narnia. To be specially gifted like Harry Potter and to receive a calling like a letter from Hogwarts. They want to be told by a wise (wizard) mentor like Gandalf that they must set on an unexpected journey. Deep down I believe that many young people desire to go on a quest for a noble cause or play a crucial part in the ultimate war between good and evil. They have a hope that there is a supernatural world that is actually real and they can be part of.

We as Christians need to be telling stories too. C S Lewis said, when asked about whether he wrote a deliberate Christian allegory into the Narnia books, "No, I just told a story. But whatever roots are in me are going to spring up and produce that kind of flower".

#### **Belonging**

Just as family is a place where you belong, discipleship also works best when young people can feel they belong. Perhaps the most challenging idea that came to me while reading how Jesus discipled his disciples, was that belonging came before believing. Peter's profession of faith came after their ministry exercise, and after being called to be a disciple (Luke 5). Thomas doubted right until after he saw the risen Christ; God only knows whether Judas ever believed at all.

Yes the Kingdom is also about believing and becoming Christ-like. When we belong first, it gives us the opportunity to experience the Kingdom, which brings hope. Hope develops into faith, which then grows, developing character and knowledge about God, and this leads to love.

You don't have to believe or behave to join the disciple-ship. The Church is the Disciple-ship – both the ship and the people in it. It is a ship sent on a voyage of exploration, discovery and purpose. The Holy Spirit is the wind in the sails, at work in our communities, so we must find out where and in whom, and set our course in their direction. We all serve the Captain Jesus (as Colin Buchanan sings) in bringing in the Kingdom.

William G T Shedd said, "A ship is safe in the harbour, but that is not what it is designed for". A Christian is safe inside a church, but that is not what a church is designed for – nor is a Christian for that matter. As John Wimber once said, we have not joined a cruise ship. On a cruise ship the purpose is happiness and wellbeing. On a cruise ship there are passengers. On the discipleship there is only crew.

I suppose that these thoughts apply to everyone, not just youth. Deep down we all thirst for adventure; a journey with purpose, with a mysterious and wonderful destination. We need to hear stories that bring the supernatural into the natural. We all want to climb on board and join the crew of a ship that is sent out with a purpose. This is the journey of discipleship. We believe in the Kingdom of God: a better journey and a better destination than anything else the world can offer.

Life is good, but not always safe, and following Jesus is the greatest adventure of all.

John Van Der Marel is the Youth and Children's Worker at Neerim South cooperating churches



#### A LASTING GIFT: A bequest to the Anglican Diocese of Gippsland or your parish

The Church, over the years, has been blessed with the generosity of Anglicans and others in support of its mission. One way you can support this ideal in a relatively easy way, is to make a gift through your will. In the first instance, of course, you will consider carefully the needs of your immediate family and friends before proceeding with a bequest to the church.

We offer a way of helping you to carry out your wishes. Your gift, through your bequest, will be very much appreciated. You may wish to support the Diocese of Gippsland as a whole, or your own parish, or for a particular purpose.

Making your bequest in your Will is a simple procedure, although in preparing or amending your Will you should always consult a solicitor. The Registrar of the Diocese of Gippsland has information to assist you in making a bequest, including the form of words you and your solicitor might want to use.

Telephone Brian Norris on 03 5144 2044, or go to www.gippsanglican.org.au and search 'bequests'.



## **Many Artists of Morwell**

Jan Down

By the grace of God, we're here, and we're selling paintings", says Auntie Gloria Whalan, one of the "Many Artists" who paint at a very long table in a former garage at Morwell.

They have been meeting there for the past eighteen months, since the closing of the TAFE where Uncle Dennis Seymour, Auntie Gloria and her daughter Ellen were undertaking a Certificate 4 in Koori Art.

Auntie Gloria says "I was pretty irate about it, because the TAFE had become like a hub for people". But the three asked around and finally spoke to Frank Grubb, manager of the Central Gippsland Aboriginal Health and Housing Cooperative. He gave them the use of the garage which is across the road from the coop.

"We did a lot of praying", Gloria says, as they had no funds to set up the space. Then things started happening. People donated tables, a microwave, a fridge. Gloria feels "it was meant to be".

The garage has become a workshop and gallery for many artists, young and old, and is open Monday – Wednesday from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Many of Gloria's and Dennis's paintings can be seen on the gallery walls.

All the money from the sale of the paintings goes back to the artists, Gloria explains, and they generally donate something towards the tea and coffee which are always available in the workshop.

Gloria tells the story of her painting, *Tortoises' Turmoil*. "A group of politicians were talking about passing a certain law, but no one took the lead in the matter. So they all just walked around in a circle. No one knew who the leader was." (Humour is never far away here.)

Gloria mainly uses acrylics, but also likes pastels, and sometimes includes elements of collage in her work – such as the kitchen sponge she used to create the jellyfish in her painting, *Just a Jellyfish*.

Dennis, who has been painting for forty years, started with oils, then moved to acrylics. He likes to make his own ochre paint as well. This takes time: first he cracks the ochre rock into pieces and soaks it in a bucket of



Harbour by Dennis Seymour

water for a few weeks. Then the coloured liquid is poured through fabric and left to evaporate. The resulting powder is mixed with PVA glue – traditionally this would have been Spinifex sap.

Lately Dennis has been collaborating with Gloria and some of the other artists on a series of paintings. Dennis paints the central scene, while one of the others creates a wide frame around it with an Aboriginal design.

Dennis was born on a hill in Queensland, as his mother, from the Adnyamatanha Clan in the Flinders Ranges, was afraid that he would be taken from her if she gave birth in hospital. She was one of the stolen children herself. While Gloria was born in Lithgow, NSW, she is of the Wiradjuri nation, around the Blue Mountains, and is part of the stolen generation.

There is a tiny sign on the door of the garage in Buckley Street, which reads "Many artists". Inside is a big friendly welcome and a hum of activity. It has become the art space and community hub the artists were looking for.

More paintings by Gloria and Dennis can be seen at: yaail.org



Tortoises' Turmoil by Gloria Whalan



Artists Dennis Seymour and Gloria Whalan with Frank Grubb

#### Diocesan calendar

First Saturday of each month: all welcome to walk the Labyrinth at the end of BackBeach Road at San Remo, Phillip Island, from 10:30 am

#### December 2014 and January 2015

Dec 7 4:00 pm Advent Concert – Poetry and Music for Advent – at St Peter's by the Lake, Paynesville

Dec 8, 10, 13, 16

10:30 am – 3:00 pm Bushland Conservation Bee, The Abbey, Raymond Island – *details page 9* 

Dec 16 6:00 pm Official opening of new facility at St Mary's, Trafalgar – *details page 7* 

Dec 27 – Jan 2

Theos coffee shop at St. Philip's Hall, Cowes

Dec 29 – Jan 9 'Summer in Seaspray' – School Holiday Program at Seaspray

Dec 27 – Jan 5 SUFM at Inverloch

Dec 27 – Jan 7 SUFM Mission to Children and Families at The Oval, Mallacoota

Dec 28 – Jan 9 THEOS Beach Mission at The Mudbrick Pavilion, Mallacoota

Jan 10 8:30 am – 1:00 pm St Nicholas' Fete, Lakes Entrance

Jan 16 7:00 pm Piano concert with Philip Johnston, Court House Theatre, Stratford. This is to mark the retirement of the Rev Brian Turner, and raise funds for parish mission.

More details of beach missions at: suvic.org.au/missions/program-information

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The Anglican Diocese of Gippsland does not tolerate abuse, misconduct and harm in its Christian community.

The Diocese is committed to ensuring all people in contact with the Church can participate in a safe and responsible environment. If you may have been harmed by a church worker, or know someone who has, please come forward.

The Director of Professional Standards, Cheryl Russell, is available, and will maintain confidentiality, on telephone 03 5633 1573, on mobile 0407 563313, or email cherylrussell1@bigpond.com